

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAM-01 NEA-10 ARA-06 EA-06 AID-05 EB-07 /109 W

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R 121434Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3407

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

DIA WASHDC

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT CV PO

SUBJ: CAPE VERDE INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS

REF: LISBON 3930

1. US INVITEES: STAFFDEL ROSSITER AND FSO BALTIMORE SPENT 4 DAYS IN CAPE VERDE TO ATTEND INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS AS REPRESENTATIVES OF SENATOR BROOKE. CONGRESSMAN DIGGS ACCOMPANIED BY CONGRESSWOMAN CARLIS COLLINS PARTICIPATED IN JULY 5 STADIUM CEREMONY. CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAM FROM SENATOR KENNEDY REGRETTING INABILITY TO ATTEND READ OVER LOCAL RADIO JULY 4.

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2. CEREMONY: SAL AND PRAIA AIRPORTS AS WELL AS STREETS OF CAPITAL CITY ADORNED WITH BANNERS AND POSTERS WHICH HAILED PAIGC FOUNDER AMILCAR CABRAL AND CALLED FOR UNITY WITH GUINEA-BISSAU. JULY 5 AFTERNOON CELEBRATION IN PRAIA'S VARZEA STADIUM MARKED FORMAL BIRTH OF CAPE VERDIAN STATE. AMONG OFFICIAL DELEGATIONS INTRODUCED TO CROWD OF 4,000 WERE: OAU, SENEGAL, MAURITANIA, IVORY COAST, ALGERIA, ANGOLA, MPLA, MLSTP, UNDP, ANC, SWAPO, GOP, TANZANIA, USSR, PRC, CUBA, AND US OFFICIALS. CROWD RESPONDED MOST FAVORABLY TO MPLA AND CUBAN DELEGATES WITH SLOGANS OF SUPPORT AND PROLONGED APPLAUSE.

3. EMOTIONAL HIGH POINTS OF CEREMONY WERE INTRODUCTION OF WEEPING MOTHER OF AMILCAR CABRAL, FINAL LOWERING OF PORTUGUESE FLAG, AND PRESENTATION OF FLAG TO GOP PRIME MINISTER GONCALVES. BRIEF ADDRESS BY COMPOSED AND SOLEMN PAIGC SECRETARY-GENERAL ARISTIDES PERREIRA WAS IN MARKED CONTRAST TO FLAMBOYANT AND CHARGED SPEECH BY GOP PRIME MINISTER VASCO GONCALVES. FOLLOWING OFFICIAL LUNCH, DELEGATIONS PAID FORMAL CALL ON NEWLY INAUGURATED PRESIDENT ARISTIDES PERREIRA. REMAINDER OF DAY CONSISTED OF CHURCH CEREMONY AND EVENING OPEN AIR FESTIVAL.

4. COMMENT: PAIGC PUT SPECIAL PREMIUM ON TREATMENT OF US OFFICIALS. IN SPITE OF GROSSLY OVERTAXED FACILITIES, BROOKE REPRESENTATIVES IMMEDIATELY GIVEN ONE OF FEW HOTEL ROOMS, LIMOUSINE WITH CHAUFFER, AND CONSTANT ATTENTION. OTHER THAN GOP, US OFFICIALS WERE SOLE REPRESENTIVES FROM WEST. SOON AFTER HIS ELECTION BY NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, PRESIDENT PERREIRA INFORMED BROOKE DELEGATION HE WISHED PRIVATE TALK AFTER FORMAL CALL (SEE REFTEL). PRESIDENT LATER EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER EARLY DIGGS DEPARTURE AND WAS TOLD MRS. DIGGS AND STAFF AIDE ILL IN DAKAR. WITH RESPECT TO US OFFICIALS, NEW AFRICAN GOVERNMENT ATTEMPTED TO MAKE IT ABUNDANTLY CLEAR AT ALL LEVELS THAT CAPE VERDE WANTS NEW, FRIENDLY, AND HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP WITH U.S. CARLUCCI

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